16th Sunday after Pentecost

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service—9:00 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600
E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org
Web Site: http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Sheila Kahler
Vice-President—Lauren McCloskey
Treasurer—Patty Rimel
Secretary—Gary Wachter

Stand as you are able

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH BELL RUNG

CANDLES LIT

GATHERING

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: we trust that you will provide for us and our neighbors if we share the gifts of your creation. We know we have a responsibility to steward in loving and kind ways the resources endowed to us, whether that is voice or money or power or relationships or material things, so that we might seek the flourishing of all of your children and all of your creation. Yet, we confess to seeking what is good for ourselves and our families instead of what is good for the whole community. And because of this, some go without. Forgive us, God. Help us to align ourselves with your vision of a world without hunger and give us energy to work toward that end believing that we can have a real impact on real people. Amen.

P: Friends, hear the good news. We can turn our backs on our neighbors; we can close our hearts to God; we can stay silent to injustice. Yet each time we turn ourselves toward God in repentance, God forgives us and like the prodigal son, we are welcomed back with open arms and joyful celebrations. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

Ten Thousand Reasons.....ACS 1097

© 2011 Thankyou Music/Atlas Mountain Songs/worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music, admin. CapitalCMGPublishing.com

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE Glory to God in the Highest* (p. 148)**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: God of love, We gather this day to worship you; to hear your word proclaimed, to pray for our neighbors, near and far, and to offer the gift of our voices and our words so that children around the world have enough nourishing food that they will thrive.

C: Amen.

Anthem*.....*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*.....*Choir

Words by Thomas O. Chisholm, Music by William M. Runyan, Arranged by Jack Schrader

Copyright 1923, Renewal 1951and this arrangement 1993 by Hope Publishing, Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

L: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103

[1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's, holy name.
2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits
3 who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
4 who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;
5 who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
6 O Lord, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
7 You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.]
8 Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
9 you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
10 You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
13 As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

L: *The Word of the Lord.*
C: Thanks be to God.

****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION* (p. 151)**

Gospel: *Matthew 18:21-35*
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon.....Pastor Peter Roy

Silence for Reflection

****HYMN OF THE DAY***
God's Work, Our Hands.....ACS 1000
Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954, Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

****THE APOSTLES' CREED***
P: We affirm our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's Only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

****PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH***

P: ... God of grace, **C: Hear our prayer.**

****The Peace***
P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow .....ELW 884

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.
God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (ELW, p.152)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***The Preface**:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy (p.153)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord. Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 153)**

P: God, you created the world, giving of yourself abundantly, providing all that we need to sustain life.

You set a table for us and invited us all to gather round.

But we in our rebellion set our own tables and invited our friends to join, excluding those who could not create their own tables.

Again and again, you invited us to join you at the table of abundance.

And we continue to choose tables of scarcity.

When we were slaves to scarcity you freed us from that bondage.

And when we continued to set our tables of scarcity, you sent prophets to call us back, reminding us that you long to share a table with us.

You sent your son Jesus to walk among us—the one who healed those who were sick, who fed those who were hungry, and restored people to wholeness in community.

Yet, we rejected Jesus and his vision for shalom.
We sent him to bear a shameful death on a cross.

But love is more powerful than death. Jesus rose from the dead and invites us again and again to join God's table—to share in God's abundance, to share God's gifts with one another.

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he sat at table with his closest companions. And after supper, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it, saying, this is my body, broken for you. Take, eat, and be nourished.

And do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner, he took the cup, blessing and giving thanks for it. As he poured the wine, he said, this is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Drink of this in remembrance of me.

And whenever we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, gathered at this table, we remember the great mystery of our faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**
Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The Table is set, the feast is prepared, come and eat.

***HOLY COMMUNION*:**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION HYMN (p.155)

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (p. 155)**

P: Let us pray,
Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen.

Godspeed and Farewell for Jim and Dottie Titmas

P: Jim and Dottie, as you go from us, do you give thanks for the fellowship, worship, ministry, and memories that you have shared with the people of St. Paul's? Jim and Dottie: We do, and we give thanks to God for the years we have shared together.

P: People of St. Paul's, do you give thanks for Jim and Dottie, for their friendship, their service, and their faithful participation in the life of this congregation?

C: We do. We give thanks to God for Jim and Dottie and for the many years we have shared together.

P: Will you continue to hold them in prayer, asking God to bless them in the days ahead?

C: We will.

P: Jim and Dottie, wherever the road ahead may lead, know that you carry with you the love, gratitude, and prayers of this congregation. Though the place where we worship may change, we remain joined together in Christ.

***SENDING**

P: Jim and Dottie, may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Go forth with our gratitude, our love, and our prayers. Jim and Dottie, you will always have a place among the people of St. Paul's.

***BENEDICTION**

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

****SENDING HYMN***

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven..... ELW 864

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927-2005

****DISMISSAL***

Go in Peace, and Godspeed.

Thanks be to God

PRAYER LIST

***Betsy Galliher**, Member*
Joe Collins, *Cousin of Joann Valainis*
Mark Holloway, *Husband of Kate Stottlemyer*
Sue Snyder, *Member*
Bert Fiske, *Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider*
Parker Bazarewski*, Extended family of Ed Chaney*
Dudley Cate*, Family friends of Ed Chaney*
Patty Plitt, *Cousin of Ed Chaney*
Leanne Colwell, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Kira Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Nancy Wynne, *Friend of Sue Snyder*
Linda Koelsch, *Friend of Ed Chaney*
Emily Kilmon, *Daughter of Betsy Galliher*
Richard Pratt, *Brother of Patty Rimel and Mary Sulima*
Dawn Lee Knoebel*, daughter of Robb and Dianne Port*
Regina Baker, *Member*
Mary Zeiman, *Mother of Amy Mildenstein*
Linda Brown, *Friend of the Mildenstein Family*
Steve Jones**,** *very close personal friend of Joann Valainis*
Adrian Smith, *Grandson of Sam and Marie Purswell*
***Our United States Military**, by Robb and Dianne Port*
Sheila Kahler*, member*
Trish Valcarcel**,** *member*
Jeff Gentry**,** *Music Director*
Davey Crockett*, Friend*
Caroline Dunning
Christine Hickerson**,** *Friend of Lauren McCloskey*
Lauren McCloskey**,** *Member*

How our Prayer List Works:
You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in ***Super Bold***, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing!

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." **Matthew 18:20**

PRAYERS
FOR OUR MILITARY
AND THEIR FAMILIES

† Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce, grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas

† U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik, grandson of Sam Purswell

† Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of Pastor Phil & Susan Beck

† Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, son-in-law of Marcia & Raj Gupta

† Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of Mary Ann Ferguson

† Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of Mary Ann Ferguson's sister-in-law

† Aaron Martz, U.S. Navy, grandson of Ken Martz

Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold.

They have specific current need for Christian love and support.

Do you or someone you know have need for prayer?

If so, please know that we have a prayer team at St. Paul's that is ready to help.

Simply contact Merle Anderson through the Parish Office.

OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community. Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.
https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, September 13th
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship, (Live Stream) 9:00am
God's Work, Our Hands
Bell Court Worship 3:00pm

Monday, September 14th
FEC 8am-5pm
Girl Scouts 6:30pm

Tuesday, September 15th
FHS 10am-3pm
Congregational Life 6:00pm
Council 7:00pm

Wednesday, September 16th
FEC 8am-5pm

Thursday, September 17th
FHS 10am-3pm
Cub Scout 1070 6:00pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm

Saturday, September 19th
Community Dinner 5:00pm

Sunday, September 20th
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship and Arts 10:15am
Worship, (Live Stream) 9:00am

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need:
$3,110.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need:
$350.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income

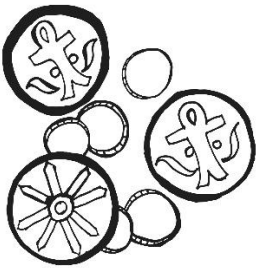
Weekly Contributions:	$ 696.59
Property Loan Fund:	$ 335.00
Total:	$1,031.59

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions:	$2,335.00
Property Loan Fund:	$ 325.00
Total:	$2,660.00

ATTENDANCE:
September 6, 2026

In Person:	48
Virtual:	6



ANNOUNCEMENTS

*******IMPORTANT*******

For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. Video link: https://youtu.be/zBjr89z9DpI *August 30*, 2026. Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1l7_-Q

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Joanne (Roxanne's Mom's) birthday by Brian and Roxanne Smith.

God's Work, Our Hands Letters
Reminder: Please bring your advocacy letters to worship on **Sunday, September 20th**. This Synod-wide collection urges lawmakers to support food assistance and SNAP benefits. Need help writing yours? Contact Roxanne Smith or the Parish Office for a helpful template.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Bring Family and Friends!
Saturday, September 19, 2026
from 5:00-6:30pm
Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church
101 S. Main St., Woodsboro, MD
Please see Roxanne Smith with any questions.

Saint Paul's Choir Rehearsals
Thursdays @ 7:00pm
in the Sanctuary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear families, Faith Formation classes begin on October 4th. We warmly invite you to enroll your children to help them grow in faith, have a fun and safe learning space, engaging Bible lessons and community.

Would you like to schedule a date to sponsor Altar Flowers? Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or contact the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a date to honor or remember.

Donations for ***Glade Valley Food Bank*** are always accepted!

****UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:**
Cereal, Juice (64 oz), Boxed Crackers, Spaghetti Sauce, Soup, Jams/Jelly

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you!

Glade Valley Community Services

Fall Festival Candy Donations Needed!
It's officially time for pumpkin spice and everything nice! To help make **St. Paul's Fall Festival** a success, please consider bringing **individually wrapped candies** to worship with you up until October 11th. All donations will be given out at the festival on **Saturday, October 24th**. Thank you for helping us share some sweetness with our community!

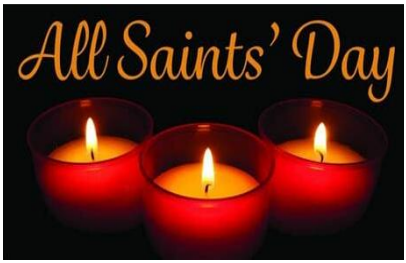
ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 11, 2026

Harvest Home Sunday is quickly approaching!

An annual tradition in our congregation is to celebrate the harvest by returning a portion of God's gifts to be distributed to others in need. On Sunday, October 11th, please bring non-perishable food items to the church. We will be collecting these items at the communion rail. After Service, they will be counted and taken to the Glade Valley Food Bank. Check the Wednesday email and bulletins for current Food Bank Needs.

It's also Pumpkin Sunday! Please pick up a pumpkin to enjoy at home on your way out after worship!



All Saints Sunday resonates with the conviction that in Christ every saint is a sinner and every sinner a saint. Lutherans especially remember on this feast that it is God's grace that makes us saints. We find lasting rest only in the mercy of God.

At St. Paul's we follow a tradition of honoring all the saints who have passed away since last All Saints Day. We will light a candle and ring the bell for each person named.

Please call the Parish Office or email @ officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org to name the person you would like to remember in this way throughout the month of October. Please give the name, relationship to you and date of death. We will need these names by 10/27/2026.

Please address any questions to the Worship and Arts Committee.

Betsy Galliher

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WALKERSVILLE

Free

Fall FESTIVAL

Full Farmyard Petting Zoo!

Games and Crafts!

Fall Treats!

Trick or Treat

Egg Hunt!

24 OCT 2026

14 W. PENNSYLVANIA AVE. WALKERSVILLE

1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

christkindl MARKET

We are beginning preparations for the 9th annual Christkindl market happening on **Saturday, December 5th** from 10am-2pm. Once again, the Walkersville Historical Society will be the event host. St. Paul's will have vendors and food similar to last year. Look for more information on those items as we get closer to the date. We will also be looking for volunteers to help with the different areas so make sure you mark it on your calendars. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Co-chairs are Amy and Russ Mildenstein.

Roots & Wings

*It is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to Jim and Dottie Titmas, who are relocating to be closer to family. For **52 years**, they have been a foundational part of our congregation, blessing us with their faith, kindness, and unwavering commitment. They leave behind a beautiful legacy of love that will always be a rooted part of this church. We will miss you dearly, Jim and Dottie, and we pray for God's abundant blessings on your new home!*

Please be assured that although we do not currently have a permanent Pastor, we do have an interim pastor, Rev. Peter Roy as well as a dedicated pastoral team in place. Our church continues to care for parishioners in all the usual ways. We are available to assist with funerals, repass meals, baptisms, and other pastoral needs. We will walk alongside families during times of grief, celebration, and everyday spiritual care. For arrangements or support, contact the Parish Office or any member of Council, and we will respond promptly and compassionately.

SERVING TODAY

Minister.....Pastor Peter Roy
Lector.....Betsy Galliher
Organist.....Jeff Gentry
Ushers.....Patty Rimel & Mary Sulima
Acolyte.....Camden Plog, Journey Gardner & Kay Wachter

Staff

Minister:.....Interim Pastor Peter Roy
Office Admin:301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)....Joann Valainis
Music Coordinator .....Jeff Gentry
Flower Coordinator.....Patty Rimel
Administration/Purchasing .....Ed Chaney
Sexton .....Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry.....Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator.....
Financial Secretary.....Troy Keeney

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and YouTube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry. From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved | License # SAS103410, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #736745-A. All rights reserved CCLI Copyright © 2026 License 21412874, Streaming 21412867. All rights reserved.